

## Message Text

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H PASS OFFICES OF CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND CONGRESSWOMAN COLLINS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C.)

SUBJ: CODEL DIGGS: UNCLEARED MEMORENDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH  
ACTING POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: STATE 251471

1. ACCOMPANIED BY CONGRESSWOMAN CARDISS COLLINGS, STAFF CONSULTANT DR. HERSCHELLE CHALLENGER, THE AMBASSADOR, AND SECOND SECRETARY DAVID C. SUMMERS (NOTETAKER), CHAIRMAN DIGGS PAID A COURTESY CALL OF APPROXIMATELY FORTY-FIVE MINUTES DURATION ON ACTING POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER EUGENIUSZ KULAGA, AT 10:45 A.M. NOVEMBER 15, IN THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S OFFICE IN THE MINISTRY. MINISTER KULAGA WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DIRECTOR JAN KINAST OF DEPARTMENT III.

2. FOLLOWING AN EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS, REP. DIGGS INFORMED MINISTER KULAGA ABOUT HIS TRIP TO AFRICA AND HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS ON RHODESIA AS AN UNOFFICIAL OBSERVER. HE ALSO SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE UPCOMING SESSION OF CONGRESS, WHICH WILL WORK UNDER A NEW ADMINISTRATION.

3. MINISTER KULAGA SAID HE HOPED THAT POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS WOULD CONTINUE TO DEVELOP FAVORABLY. HE PRAISED THE BROAD RANGE OF COOPERATIVE VENTURES ALREADY UNDERWAY IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS: ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL. THE EXHIBIT, "TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF AMERICAN PAINTING," TO BE OPENED BY REP.

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DIGGS, WOULD MARK THE LAST OFFICIAL POLISH PARTICIPATION IN A SERIES OF CULTURAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL.

(COMMENT: THE MINISTER DID NOT TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE PROSPECTIVE APPEARANCE IN WARSAW OF THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AT THE END OF NOVEMBER. END COMMENT)

4. REP DIGGS SAID HE EXPECTED A GENERAL CONTINUATION OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. ALTHOUGH NO ONE KNEW PRECISELY WHAT SPECIFIC POLICIES PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER WOULD PROMOTE, HE HAD EMPHASIZED HIS INTENTION TO CONDUCT RELATIONS ON A BILATERAL BASIS, RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF BLOCS. REP DIGGS MENTIONED THE IMPORTANCE PUBLIC OPINION PLAYED IN FORMING AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND NOTED THAT ALL BUT ONE OF THE CONGRESSMEN OF POLISH ORIGIN BELONGED TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHICH WOULD BECOME MORE INFLUENTIAL IN THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION. HE ADDED THAT BOTH HE AND REP COLLINS ALSO CAME FROM STATES WITH SIGNIFICANT POLISH-AMERICAN POPULATIONS AND HAD POLISH-AMERICANS AS CONSTITUENTS.

5. OTHER POINTS OF CONTACT BETWEEN POLISH AND AMERICAN LEGISLATORS WERE DISCUSSED, INCLUDING THE VISIT OF A POLISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES LAST JUNE AND THE VISITS TO POLAND OF CLEMENT ZABLOCKI, PROSPECTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, AND OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION LED BY THOMAS P. O'NEILL.

6. MINISTER KULAGA SAID THAT THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN HAD SLOWED DOWN ACTIVITY ON SEVERAL FRONTS, INCLUDING THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS, THE MBFR TALKS, AND THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. HE HOPED THAT THERE WOULD BE PROGRESS IN THESE FIELDS WHEN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE.

7. REP. DIGGS REPLIED THAT SOME TIME WOULD PRESUMABLY BE REQUIRED TO STUDY THESE QUESTIONS AND REACH A POSITION.

8. MINISTER KULAGA RESPONDED THAT SOME QUESTIONS WERE MADE MORE URGENT BY THE CALENDAR. THE PRESENT SALT AGREEMENT WAS DUE TO EXPIRE BEFORE THE END OF 1977, AND THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE WOULD BEGIN IN MID-JUNE, 1977. POLAND HAD ALREADY CONDUCTED OVER FIFTY MEETINGS WITH OTHER STATES IN PREPARATION FOR BELGRADE. POLAND BELIEVES THAT TWO ISSUES ARE MOST IMPORTANT. FIRST, THE FINAL ACT SIGNED AT HELSINKI SHOULD BE THE BASIS OF DISCUSSION AT  
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BELGRADE. SECOND, PARTICIPANTS SHOULD AVOID CONTROVERSY. HE NOTED THAT SOME COUNTRIES WANTED TO INCLUDE QUESTIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA ON THE BELGRADE AGENDA. POLAND BELIEVED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD NOT BE USEFUL.

9. REP. DIGGS SAID THAT HE EXPECTED 1977 WOULD ALSO BE A "MOMENT OF TRUTH" WITH REGARD TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. TWO OF THE WORLD'S PRINCIPAL NATIONS WERE INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THIS QUESTION. THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE A SETTLEMENT BY NEGOTIATION. MINISTER KULAGA REPLIED THAT SOUTHERN AFRICAN RELATIONS HAD EVOLVED IN A

"QUALITATIVE WAY" DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS. REP. DIGGS AGREED THAT THE PROCESS OF CHANGE WAS IRREVERSIBLE.

10. MINISTER KULAGA ASKED REP DIGGS HIS OPINION OF THE GENEVA TALKS ON RHODESIA. REP DIGGS ANSWERED THAT HIS PARTY WAS NOT ENCOURAGED WHEN THEY LEFT GENEVA. HE SAID AN AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE REACHED BY NO LATER THAN THE END OF NOVEMBER.

11. AMBASSADOR DAVIES SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE REASONED POLISH PRESS DISCUSSION OF AMERICAN INITIATIVES IN AFRICA. MINISTER KULAGA REPLIED THAT THE GOP BELIEVES THESE PROBLEMS SHOULD BE SETTLED IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE BALANCE OF FORCES IN AFRICA.

12. REP DIGGS AND MINISTER KULAGA BRIEFLY DISCUSSED OTHER AFRICAN QUESTIONS, INCLUDING THE TRANSKEI, POLISH ACTIVITY IN AFRICA, AND THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTE IN WARSAW. MINISTER KULAGA SAID NIGERIA WAS POLAND'S MOST IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. HE BELIEVED POLAND'S RELATIONS COULD BE EXPANDED ELSEWHERE, FOR EXAMPLE IN GHANA, WHERE HE SERVED AS AMBASSADOR.

13. ON LEAVING, REP DIGGS THANKED MINISTER KULAGA FOR THE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN MAKING HIS VISIT TO WARSAW WORTHWHILE. DAVIES

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